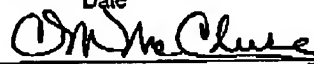


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DOCKET NO. 71738/5841

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.:	10/028,336	Certificate of Transmission/Mailing I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, Fax. No. (703) 872-9302, or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below: <u>1 December 2004</u> Date  C. M. McClure
Applicant(s):	Emery W. Dilling	
Filed:	December 22, 2001	
Title:	PROSTHETIC AORTIC VALVE	
Examiner:	Thomas C. Barrett	
Art Unit:	3738	
Customer No.:	22242	
Confirm. No.:	2801	

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO
NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT (37 CFR 1.121)**

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Complaint Amendment mailed November 15, 2004, please substitute the set of AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS which is set forth hereinafter for those earlier filed in the above-identified application